

● PRINTER RUSH ●

(PTO ASSISTANCE)

2nd request

Application : 09475444

Examiner : Miller

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From: J. Blach

Location: (IDC) FMF FDC

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DOC CODE	DOC DATE	MISCELLANEOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> 1449		<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Data
<input type="checkbox"/> IDS		<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> CLM		<input type="checkbox"/> Document Legibility
<input type="checkbox"/> IIFW		<input type="checkbox"/> Fees
<input type="checkbox"/> SRFW		<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> DRW		
<input type="checkbox"/> OATH		
<input type="checkbox"/> 312		
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[RUSH] MESSAGE:

Per previous query missing data was added to page 1 of specification but now the same provisional number is listed twice.

Please resolve.

[XRUSH] RESPONSE:

Done

Application only claims provisional to 601744456

INITIALS: *JP*

NOTE: This form will be included as part of the official USPTO record, with the Response document coded as XRUSH. Doc # RCA-89.657 157-205 left margin

REV 10/04

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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SELECTING A SATELLITE SIGNAL**CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/144,456,
5 filed July 19, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/_____, filed _____,
1999, which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety. e

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**1. Field of Invention**

10 The present invention relates to a Direct Broadcast Satellite (DBS) system.
More particularly, the invention relates to a method and apparatus for selecting one of
a plurality of information signals broadcast from at least one satellite in the Direct
Broadcast Satellite (DBS) system.

15 2. Description of the Background Art

Direct Broadcast Satellite (DBS) content providers have chosen to use
multiple satellite networks to distribute their signals. In the past, a Low Noise Block
converter (LNB) supply voltage (+13V/+18V) has been used to select between the
two polarities of signals that were available on a single satellite network.
20 Additionally, if signals from only two satellites are available for reception, then the
presence or absence of a 22 KHz tone superimposed on the LNB supply voltage may
be used to switch between either of the two satellite networks.

When the number of satellite networks grows beyond two, the voltage, and
tone switching combination is no longer sufficient. One method to overcome this
25 impediment is through bi-directional communications between an integrated
receiver/decoder (IRD) and a satellite selector switch, such as used in the European
standard known as DISEQ. The IRD sends a command signal to the selector switch to
switch to a selected satellite network. The two-way (bi-directional) protocol provides
an avenue for feedback from the switch to the IRD. Thus, in an instance where the
30 IRD sends a command to the selector switch, the selector switch upon switching,
sends an acknowledgement message back to the IRD.

However, not all satellite systems utilize bi-directional protocols, rather many
utilize unidirectional messaging. The problem encountered by an integrated